



House of Representatives

General Assembly

File No. 190

January Session, 2015

House Bill No. 6913

House of Representatives, March 24, 2015

The Committee on Public Safety and Security reported through REP. DARGAN of the 115th Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the House, that the bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANS OF OPERATION.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Subsection (a) of section 28-7 of the general statutes is
2 repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof (*Effective*
3 *October 1, 2015*):

4 (a) Each town or city of the state shall establish a local organization
5 for civil preparedness in accordance with the state civil preparedness
6 plan and program, provided any two or more towns or cities may,
7 with the approval of the commissioner, establish a joint organization
8 for civil preparedness. The authority of such local or joint organization
9 for civil preparedness shall not supersede that of any regularly
10 organized police or fire department. In order to be eligible for any state
11 or federal benefits under this chapter, not later than [January 1, 2008]
12 January 1, 2017, and [annually] biennially thereafter, each town or city
13 of the state shall have a current emergency plan of operations that has
14 been approved by the commissioner. The plan shall be submitted to

15 the commissioner after it has been approved by the local emergency
16 management director and the local chief executive. Such plan may be
17 submitted with a notice stating that the plan remains unchanged from
18 the [previous year's] previously submitted version. The emergency
19 plan of operations of every town or city situated on the shoreline of the
20 state shall contain provisions addressing an emergency caused by any
21 existing liquefied natural gas terminal located on the Long Island
22 Sound and every town or city situated on the shoreline of the state
23 shall submit such plan to the joint standing committee of the General
24 Assembly having cognizance of matters relating to public safety, in
25 accordance with the provisions of section 11-4a, and the commissioner
26 to obtain approval. The committee shall hold a public hearing
27 regarding such plan not later than thirty days after receiving the plan.
28 Not later than five days after the hearing, the committee shall (1) hold
29 a roll-call vote to approve or reject the plan, and (2) forward the plan
30 and a record of the committee's vote to the General Assembly. Such
31 emergency plan of operations shall not be approved by the
32 commissioner unless the commissioner determines that the plan
33 proposes strategies that address all the activities and measures of civil
34 preparedness identified in subdivision (4) of section 28-1. Each town or
35 city of the state shall consider whether to include in such plan
36 provisions for the nonmilitary evacuation of livestock, horses, pets and
37 service animals, and the temporary sheltering of pets, service animals
38 and animals trained to assist first responders.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	October 1, 2015	28-7(a)
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PS *Joint Favorable*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact: Potential Minimal Savings

Municipal Impact: Potential Minimal Savings

Explanation

The bill modifies the submission and approval requirements for municipal emergency plans of operation from annually to biennially. To the extent that such change reduces municipal and state effort in revising, submitting, and approving such plans, certain state and municipal agencies may realize a minimal savings during years in which submission is no longer required.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue for those years in which a plan submission is no longer required.

OLR Bill Analysis**HB 6913*****AN ACT CONCERNING LOCAL EMERGENCY PLANS OF OPERATION.*****SUMMARY:**

Beginning January 1, 2017, this bill reduces, from annually to biennially, the frequency with which towns must submit their required emergency response plans to the emergency services and public protection commissioner.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2015

BACKGROUND***Emergency Response Plan***

By law, every town must have a current emergency plan of operations approved by the commissioner of emergency services and public protection to be eligible for certain state or federal emergency management benefits. The plan must be submitted to the commissioner after it has been approved by the local emergency management director and the local chief executive. If the plan is unchanged from the previous year, the town may submit it with a note to that effect.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Safety and Security Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 25 Nay 0 (03/10/2015)